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INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

SUBJECT Armament of the Yugoslav Army

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SUPPLEMENT

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1. Infantry armament, of which the Yugoslav Army has adequate supplies, has been almost entirely replaced by Soviet-made armament. The infantry is beginning to be completely equipped with 7.62 mm. (model 1941) Soviet rifles. Each company generally has two anti-tank rifles of Soviet make. Officers and political commissars have Soviet "Magan" revolvers (7.6 mm.). Every tenth soldier, usually corporals, or privates first class, has an automatic rifle (7.6mm.) called "masinka".
2. Artillery armament has also been almost completely replaced by Soviet-made artillery. There are more guns than men to serve them, and the lack of artillery officers is strongly felt. Officers of the former Royal Yugoslav Army act as artillery instructors but without rank.
3. The shortage of infantry and artillery ammunition is keenly felt, and harsh punishment is handed out to those who waste it during gun practice.
4. Sources of supply of arms and ammunition are as follows:
 - (a) Former Yugoslav armament and war booty taken from the Germans. This materiel is already obsolete and in bad condition. It is handed over clandestinely to the Italian and Greek Communists.
 - (b) During the war and especially after the liberation the number of units completely equipped with armament of Soviet origin has steadily increased. Ammunition, especially artillery ammunition, comes from Russia for the most part. Due to German destructions Yugoslav factories are not yet in a position to produce in great enough quantities.
 - (c) Production of local armament industries: "21 Oktobar" factory in Kragujevac, Vojnotehnicki Zavod in Valjevo, Fabrika oruzja in Usice, and armament factories in Cacak and Visegrad.
 - (d) Production of workshops constructed by the Soviet Mission in Yugoslavia in February 1946. In these workshops spare parts, rifles, sub-machine guns, mine-throwers, grenades and ammunition are being manufactured.
5. In the village of Sabanta, 10-15 km. southeast of Kragujevac, there are huge supply dumps of ammunition, particularly aircraft bombs. There are ammunition dumps in Smederevo and in Smederevska Palanka (sic).

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Extracted by F.I.R.